

## Minutes for the ABAC meeting of December 16, 2015

Board members present were Jack Johnson, Christopher Tonkin, Doug Greenfield, Scott Smith, Phil Goff and Stephan Miller. Ron Sender was absent. Also in attendance were Maggie Stanley, Rod Holland, Joey Glushko and Officer Dave Martin.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

Approval of the minutes from November meeting. The November minutes were approved as amended.

The TAC report. Christopher gave a summary of the Board of Selectmen (BoS) meeting where we asked for their support for bills enhancing protection for vulnerable road users. These bills are currently being debated in the State Legislature. After some discussion, the BoS gave their support, and Christopher has received written notice of that endorsement. At that meeting, the BoS also approved the installation of the Rails-to-Trails historical sign near the Bikeway at the Lake St. crossing.

Next, Scott updated us on the deliberations about the potential traffic light at the Bikeway/Lake St. intersection. This topic will be taken up at the next TAC meeting on January 16. He also handed out the latest Arlington Complete Streets Policy and Guidelines. These guidelines originated with the State, and the Town has voted to accept the legislation. In addition, the Town has come up with its own Complete Streets Policy which the advisory committees must review before it is presented to the BoS. Scott gave us an annotated summary of the proposed Guidelines. He told us that this document was meant to be applied to main streets and collector streets. All the major Federal, State and Town design guidelines are referenced including ABAC's Road Design Guidelines. The Guidelines will be administered by the DPW, Selectmen, TM, ABAC, and TAC. Maggie brought up the issue of bike parking which is not included. Joey thought that parking was not meant to be part of this document. We decided that it would be in our interest to try to add bike parking and Safe Routes to School to the Guidelines. Scott would like to see a formal vote of endorsement for the Guidelines. Jack made a motion to endorse the document. Joey suggested that we provide a statement or comments to go along with the endorsement. Scott said that he would add the items that we discussed.

\*We voted on the motion to endorse the Arlington Complete Streets Guidelines. The vote was unanimous.

COBWEB. Christopher invited Officer Martin to participate if he had anything for us to discuss. Christopher and Joey brought up the idea of positive citations for bicyclists who follow the rules. We all liked that idea. Joey suggested that the Chamber of Commerce might like to sponsor this program.

New News

Winter Social. Christopher met with the chair of the Somerville Bike Committee, who agreed to appear at the Social. We decided to proceed with the idea that there should be a panel discussion between representatives from local bike committees. Rod suggested that we invite the Malden Committee, because they have some interesting projects recently.

LAB application. We decided that we would try to complete the application before the August deadline.

Bikeway Website. Stephan told that he is redesigning the Minuteman Bikeway website because Dreamweaver, the software he has used in the past, has become too expensive. The new site will be done in WordPress, which is open source and unlikely to become expensive. There is also the additional advantage of WordPress being widely used so that the site could easily be taken over by another volunteer.

Community Preservation Act (CPA). Stephan asked if we thought ABAC would like to apply for CPA funds for bicycle-centric projects in town. He gave the example of a Bikeway ramp at Grove St. Joey suggested that there are a number of safety improvements along the Bikeway that could be done. For instance, the bridge at Alewife needs work, the Bikeway entrance at Gold's Gym could be made safer, or an access to the Bikeway could be made from the High School. Rod asked if way-finding is an appropriate project. No one knew the answer. Joey told us we must submit our ideas and the CPA committee will decide whether it will be funded.

Mac Memorial. Jack told us that the Bobby Mac memorial was installed.

Ryder St. crossing. Stephan told us that the Ryder St. crossing of the Bikeway is again open and he has also seen trucks using it to access Summer St. Joey thought we should first try asking through the Request/Answer element of the Town website that the bollards be replaced. Stephan said he would try that.

\*The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

\*Notes that a vote of the board was taken.

Minutes submitted by Stephan Miller